

GENERAL WAIVER COVER SHEET

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 2003 AGENDA

Item No. WC-1

TITLE: Request by various districts to waive <i>Education Code</i> (EC) Section 51451, regarding the method of qualifying this year's high school seniors for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma.	<input type="checkbox"/> ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEARING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT
CDSIS: See list attached	

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends:

☒ **Approval, on the condition that the districts have certified that all students submitted to Education Data Systems, Inc. (EDS, Inc.) have met either the existing requirements to be eligible for the Golden State Merit Seal Diploma, or the requirements of the 2003 Senior Waiver**

Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action:

In January 2003, the CDE posted a waiver process for a waiver of English language arts Golden State Exam (GSE) requirement, because at the time this was the only exam not available to this year's seniors.

The current year budget act then eliminates all the other GSE administration for this year. At the April 9, 2003, State Board of Education (SBE) meeting members approved the method described by the California Department of Education for a Golden State Exam "Senior Waiver Process."

Summary of Key Issue(s):

The *Education Code* (EC) Section involved in this waiver is:

EC 51451. *A student who meets the following requirements shall qualify for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma:*

- (a) *The completion of all requirements for a high school diploma.*
- (b) *A demonstration of the mastery of the curriculum in at least six subject matter areas, four of which shall be mathematics, English language arts, science, and United States history, with the remaining two subject matter areas selected by the student.*

The 2003 Senior Waiver criteria are described on the attached "sample" certification, and all districts making a request this time have certified to submit only names of students who have met the requirements of EC 51451, or the 2003 Senior Waiver.

GENERAL WAIVER REQUEST- Golden State Seal Merit DiplomaGW-1 GSE (05/03) <http://www.cde.ca.gov/waiver/>

Page 1 of 2

To expedite, send copy by FAX (916) 319-0117
 Waiver Office, California Department of Education
 1430 N Street, Suite 5602
 Sacramento, CA 95814

<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="6" style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">CDS CODE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>						CDS CODE											
CDS CODE																	
LEA:			Contact/recipient of approval/denial notice:		Contact Person's E-Mail Address:												
Address: (City) (State) (ZIP)			Phone (and extension, if necessary): () - x Fax Number: () -														
Period of Request: (month/day/year)			Local Board Approval date: (Required)		Date of Public Hearing: (Required)												
For: 2002-2003 school year																	
LEGAL CRITERIA																	
<p>1. Under the General Waiver Authority of Education Code 33050-33053, the particular Education Code or California Code of Topic of the waiver: <u>Golden State Seal Merit Diploma; Golden State Exam requirement</u></p> <p><i>E.C. 51451 Qualifications for diploma.</i> A student who meets the following requirements shall qualify for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma:</p> <p>(a) <i>The completion of all requirements for a high school diploma.</i></p> <p>(b) <i>A demonstration of the mastery of the curriculum in at least six subject matter areas, four of which shall be mathematics, English language arts, science, and United States history, with the remaining two subject matter areas selected by the student.</i></p>																	
<p>2. Position of the Bargaining Unit. Does the district have any employee bargaining units? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, please complete required information below:</p> <p>Date(s) the bargaining unit(s) was (were) consulted: _____.</p> <p>Name of bargaining unit persons(s) consulted: : _____.</p> <p>The position(s) of the bargaining unit(s) was/were: <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <i>(Please summarize below)</i></p> <p>Comments (if appropriate): _____</p>																	
<p>3. Public Hearing Requirement: (A public hearing is not simply a board meeting, but a properly noticed public hearing held during a board meeting at which time the public may testify on the waiver proposal. Distribution of local board agenda does not constitute notice of a public hearing. Acceptable ways to advertise include: (1) print a notice that includes the time, date, location, and subject of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation; or (2) in small school districts, post a formal notice at each school and three public places in the district. How was the required public hearing advertised?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Notice in a newspaper? <input type="checkbox"/> Notice posted at each school? <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <i>(Please summarize below.)</i></p> <p>_____</p>																	
<p>4. District/Parent Advisory Committee: Please identify the council(s) or committee that reviewed this waiver:</p> <p>_____ Date _____</p> <p>There were objection(s) <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(Please summarize the objection(s))</i> _____</p> <p>No Objections <input type="checkbox"/></p>																	

GENERAL WAIVER REQUEST

GW-1 GSE (01/03)

Page 2 of 2

5. Desired outcome/rationale.

Due to cancellation of the spring administration of the Golden State Examinations (GSEs) as a part of the current year budget cuts, many seniors are not able to complete the following requirement as of EC 51451:

To be eligible for the 2003 Golden State Diploma, seniors must:

- 1) Be receiving a high school diploma from their district.
- 2) Have earned achievement levels of 4 (recognition), 5 (honors), or 6 (high honors) on **six Golden State Examinations including U.S. history; reading/literature or written composition; a mathematics exam; a science exam; and two other exams of the student's choice.**

GSE subjects included:

Reading/Literature, Written Composition, First-year Algebra, Geometry, High School Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Second-year Coordinated Science, U.S. History, Economics, Government/Civics, Second-year Spanish Language.

Therefore, the State Board of Education will consider a General Waiver, called the Senior Waiver, to **also** allow students to be certified "as meeting the GSE requirements," provided that districts certify that students they recommend for the Golden Seal Merit Diploma meet the following requirements:

2003 Senior Waiver: This waiver is available to seniors who were prevented from meeting the above requirements due to GSE program reductions.

To be eligible for the 2003 Golden State Diploma, seniors must:

- 1) Be receiving a high school diploma from their district.
- 2) Have earned achievement levels of 4 (recognition), 5 (honors), or 6 (high honors) on **four or more** of the six required Golden State Examinations.
- 3) Be granted a waiver by the State Board of Education (SBE) to **use ONLY up to two 2002 California Standards Tests (CSTs), with scale scores no lower than 350**, to meet the subject-area requirements identified in Option ONE, number 2. To obtain a waiver, a CST scale score may be used only if the student **has not previously taken the GSE** for which the CST will substitute. The following are the CST's that may be used for this waiver: Grade 11 English Language Arts, Grade 11 History/Social Science (United States History), High School Mathematics, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Integrated Mathematics 1, 2, or 3, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science.
- 4) Students must still have achieved GSE recognition or CST's with scale scores no lower than 350 for a **total of six subject matter areas, four of which shall be mathematics, English language arts, science, and United States history**, with the remaining **two subject matter areas selected** by the student.

CERTIFICATION:

• **I request that ALL qualifying 2002-03 graduates in our district be granted a waiver under the criteria of the 2003 Senior Waiver.**

• *I certify that all students submitted to Education Data Systems, Inc. (EDS, Inc.) have met either the existing requirements to be eligible for the Golden State Merit Seal Diploma, or the requirements of the 2003 Senior Waiver*

Signature of Superintendent or Designee:	Title:	Date:
FOR CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION USE ONLY		
Signature:	Title: Administrator, CDE Waiver Office	Date:

Golden State Examination Senior Waiver Certification

Waiver #	LEA	Local Board Approval	Certification Received
CDSIS-17-7-2003	Bellflower Unified SD	6/26/2003	6/26/2003
CDSIS-10-7-2003	Manhattan Beach USD	7/9/2003	7/9/2003
CDSIS-25-7-2003	Oceanside USD	7/22/2003	7/22/2003
CDSIS-23-7-2003	Palos Verdes Peninsula USD	7/24/2003	7/24/2003
CDSSIS-2-8-2003	Placentia-Yorba Linda USD	6/17/2003	6/17/2003
CDSIS-24-7/2003	San Jose Unified SD	6/5/2003	6/5/2003
CDSIS-33-7-2003	Temecula Valley USD	8/5/2003	8/5/2003
CDSIS-15-7-2003	Woodland Joint USD	6/12/2003	6/12/2003